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## **NEWS ADVISORY**

**June 27, 2001**

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### **Permanently Assigned Vehicles In County Government and Independent Agencies**

The Office of Inspector General transmitted an inspection report on whether all County agencies follow County Council guidelines with respect to the assignment and reimbursement policies for permanently assigned vehicles; and whether there are management controls in place to protect these vehicles from fraud, waste, and abuse. The report is now available to the public and may be requested by calling or e-mailing the inspector general at the above addresses. The report is also available through the county's website at [www.co.mo.md.us/council](http://www.co.mo.md.us/council). Select Inspector General to access the IG home page. Reports may be viewed by through the IG Products listing at the bottom of the page.

This inspection focused on the 225 non-public safety permanently assigned vehicles County agencies reported to the Office of Inspector General. The inspection found wide variations in reimbursement policies and practices, with just over half of all staff with assigned vehicles reimbursing. The average agency reimbursement rate ranged from 4 cents to 31 cents per mile. The inspection found management controls were weak and suggested each County agency establish a comprehensive driver accountability program. Additionally, as a result of our fieldwork the Inspector General suggested County government strengthen its controls over permanently assigned vehicles.

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